

STABLE COATING AGENT COMPRISING STEROL**ABSTRACT**

An ingestible coating agent comprising: (a) sterol, and (b) solvent. The coating agent can be used to protect ingestible substrates from adverse conditions that would otherwise lead to degradation of the substrate. Preferably, the solvent comprises azeotropic solvent. In another aspect, the present invention provides a coated substrate comprising an ingestible coating and an ingestible substrate. The coating agent can be used to coat any suitable substrate. Suitable substrates can include, but are not limited to, vitamins, amino acids, minerals, phytochemicals, carotenoids, pharmaceuticals, salts, nutrients, physiological active agents, and mixtures thereof.